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Office of the Prosecutor General United States Department of Justice
of the Russian Federation

ulitsa Bolshaya Dmitrovka, 15a To the Director of the Office of International Affairs
Moscow, Russia, GSP-3, 125993

05/26/2009 № 82/1-1261-08

Ms. Mary Ellen Warlow

To № 182-22165

1301 New York Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Ms. Director:

The Office of the Prosecutor General of the Russian Federation affirms its respect for the United States Department of Justice and, in accordance with the Treaty between the Russian Federation and the United States for Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters, of 06/17/199, is sending materials obtained during the fulfillment of a request for legal assistance related to the investigation of a criminal case concerning officials of the Al Haramain Islamic Foundation.

At the same time we are informing you that, pursuant to information received from the Directorate of the FSB of Russia for the Republic of Ingushetia, in March 2000, personnel from that directorate conducted operational measures related to the Saudi Red Crescent Society (hereinafter "SRCS"), which was a constituent component of the Saudi Joint Relief Committee for Kosovo and Chechnya

As a result, it was determined that officials of the SRCS—Abdulla Al-Harsi (DOB 12/28/1968, subject of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, head of the representation of this organization in Ingushetia), Akhmed Feysal Kaid Ali (DOB 01/12/1974, citizen of Yemen, officer of the representation), Al Dzhukhani Abdulla (subject of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, manager of the representation's warehouse), Khabbula Mokhammed Talaat (DOB 04/13/1970, citizen of Syria, administrator of the representation)—under cover of providing aid to displaced persons from Chechnya, provided ideological, material, and financial aid to representatives of radical Islam, acting under the banner-cry of secession of the Caucasian republics from Russia and the creation of an independent Islamic state. The above-mentioned individuals undertook attempts to gather information about the [handwritten] 182-22165 Al Haramain Islamic Foundation [end handwriting]

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actions of federal agencies in the Northern Caucasus, simultaneously counteracting efforts by the federal center to return displaced persons to their places of residence.

In April 2000, the President of the Republic of Ingushetia, R. Aushev, gave a directive to the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Ingushetia Republic and to the Directorate of the FSB of Russia for the Republic of Ingushetia to conduct a joint examination of the activities of the SRCS. As a result, it was discovered that the actions of officials of the given organization included violations of Articles 2, 18, and 47 of the Russian Federation Law "On Social Associations" and the Regulations for the Stay of Foreign Citizens on the Territory of Russia. As a result of the aforementioned, the SRCS representation on the territory of Ingushetia was shut down.

In addition, according to information at the disposal of the Directorate of the FSB of Russia for the Republic of Ingushetia, in 2002, on the territory of the Republic of Azerbaijan, law-enforcement officers detained representatives of the Al Haramain Islamic Foundation, subjects of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia—Al Modikhish Akhmad Aliya, born in 1974, and Al-Dzhadani Taufik, born in 1972—who were suspected of subversive activity. According to the information obtained, the materials seized from them pointed to a connection between Al-Dzhadani Taufik and leaders of illegal, armed units, Khattab, Abu Touba and Arbi Barayev. In June 2002, Azerbaijani authorities made the decision to deport the detainees to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

No documentary information in any format related to the facts of the illegal activities of representatives of the indicated foundation remains at the FSB's disposal. As was reported earlier, operational materials were destroyed according to established procedure as retention dates expired.

Enclosure: 14 pages

Acting Head of the Directorate
of Legal Assistance
of the Chief Directorate of
International Legal Cooperation

[Seal of the Office of the Prosecutor General
of the Russian Federation]
[signature]
S. M. Gribinyuchenko

Executed by Yusifov, N. R., tel. 692-8380

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FD-302 (Rev. 10-6-95)

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 02/14/2005

(U) On 1/31/05, Mahmoud Talaat Hasan El Fiki, date of birth, 5/9/32, was interviewed at the Nasr City, Egypt offices by SSIS Major Muhammad. El Fiki was interviewed at a remote location in the facility and was observed from a conference room via closed circuit television. Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations (IRS-CI) SA Colleen Anderson and FBI Cairo ALAT Nael Sabha were also present in the conference room observing the interview, as was SSIS Major Ahmed Maher who acted as translator during the interview. El Fiki was previously interviewed by the SSIS pursuant to receiving questions via EC from Portland FBI. On 1/30/05, a meeting was held at SSIS' downtown offices to discuss the specific questions that would be posed to El Fiki by SSIS investigators.

(U) During the aforementioned meeting, the SSIS advised they conducted extensive investigation into El Fiki's finances. They advised El Fiki has donated upwards of approximately 35 million Egyptian Pounds (converted to U.S. dollars using conversion rate of 5.87 Egyptian pounds to the dollar, is equivalent to approximately \$5.9 million), during his lifetime to various charitable causes throughout Egypt. He has been primarily involved in the construction of, and the purchase of equipment for hospitals in Egypt. He prefers to use his money to build facilities or to purchase specific equipment as opposed to donating cash.

(U) El Fiki has no interest in seeking publicity for his philanthropy and deflects inquiries about his charitable works. He has never had a hospital named after him. He typically directs hospital administrators in charge of naming their facilities to use the names of honored deceased individuals to name the buildings. Earlier in his life El Fiki donated approximately 10% of his income to Zakat. Investigation conducted by SSIS revealed that later in life El Fiki donates approximately 80% of his income to charity.

(U) El Fiki is an engineer who received a Ph.D in Engineering from Sofia University in Sofia, Bulgaria. El Fiki owns and operates the Cairo Construction Company (CCC). CCC was, and continues to be a prominent builder of hospitals in Egypt. The company has been involved numerous large building projects throughout Egypt.

Investigation on 1/31/05 at Nasr City, Egypt
File # 315N-PD-45427Date dictated 2/9/05by SA David A. Carroll

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(U) El Fiki maintains money in bank accounts in CIB, Egypt, as well as in various institutions in Cairo, Alexandria, Egypt, the Bank of Kuwait in London, England and the United Arab Emirates(UAE).

(U) El Fiki advised he became aware of Al Haramain Islamic Foundation through his son, Sharif El Fiki. S. El Fiki attended the Hajj in Saudi Arabia in 2000. Upon S. El Fiki's return to Egypt he was carrying flyer's prepared by the Al Haramain Islamic Foundation soliciting donations for providing humanitarian aid to Chechnyan widows, orphans and refugees. El Fiki advised his son showed him the flyer when he came home from the Hajj. The flyer depicted various photos of conditions in Chechnya and included photos of women and children.

(U) El Fiki checked with his contacts in Saudi Arabia to determine AHF's reputation. He also consulted with his friend and employee, Mohammed Salat, about AHF's reputation. Salat had contacts in Saudi Arabia and made inquiries about the foundation. Salat reported to El Fiki that the foundation had a good reputation for providing humanitarian aid and recommended making the contribution. El Fiki's other associates in Saudi Arabia also vouched for Al Haramain as being a reputable organization.

(U) After seeing the flyer, consulting his associates and accessing AHF's website, El Fiki made the decision to donate \$150,000 to the cause of supporting widows, orphans and refugees in Chechnya. After making the decision, he contacted AHF via email through their website, AlHaramain.Org., and advised the foundation of his desire to donate \$150,000. El Fiki received a response via email indicating the foundation's appreciation for his financial support. In AHF's responding email, El Fiki was provided two bank accounts as an alternative for submission of the donation.

(U) The first option was an AHF account at the Bank of America(BOA) in Ashland, Oregon. The second was an AHF account at Al Rajhi Banking & Investment Corporation in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Subsequent to the completion of El Fiki's interview, the SSIS investigators allowed the interviewing agents the opportunity to view El Fiki's email to AHF indicating his desire to donate to the widows, orphans and refugees in Chechnya. They also presented for display the AHF responding email thanking El Fiki for his support and directing him to wire the money to one of the two aforementioned accounts. The SSIS advised the FBI would be provided with copies of these documents at a later date.

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(U) El Fiki advised he chose to send his donation to the Bank of America account provided in AHF's response because the bank was more well known and he had more confidence in the United States banking system than the banks in Saudi Arabia. El Fiki contacted the Bank of Kuwait in London, England and directed them to wire transfer \$150,000 to the aforementioned AHF account at the BOA in Ashland, Oregon. In directing the Bank of Kuwait to wire the money, El Fiki requested, and received a receipt, indicating the cost of the transaction was \$40.00. SSIS also presented this receipt for review by writer and SA Anderson.

(U) El Fiki advised the donation was for Zakat to support widows and orphans. After making the donation, a month passed and El Fiki had not received an acknowledgment from AHF indicating the foundation received the money. El Fiki was unaware that \$21,000 of the \$150,000 he donated to AHF ended up in Soliman Albuthe's personal bank account. El Fiki did not know Albuthe and had never heard of him. This disturbed El Fiki and he therefore sent another email requesting acknowledgment of the donation. In response to El Fiki's inquiry about the delay in AHF's acknowledging his donation, the foundation sent him an email directing him to contact Salat. El Fiki was told Salat had the receipt for the donation.

(U) El Fiki advised he never had any telephonic contact with anyone at AHF, nor has ever spoken with anyone employed by the foundation. AHF did not return any of the money to him and questioned the interrogator as to why would they return money to him. El Fiki had no idea how his donation was actually spent. He advised he had no method or means to determine how the money was specifically spent. El Fiki was unaware if the money was spent on Chechnyan mujahedin. He reiterated that he would have no way of knowing how the money was actually spent.

(U) SSIS personnel indicated El Fiki provided the following time line of events regarding his contact with AHF.

January 11, 2000 - El Fiki's first contact with AHF via email through their website.

Approximately within a week's time of 1/11/00, AHF responded providing the two choices of bank accounts available to receive donations.

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Approximately within a week after receipt of response from AHF, El Fiki directs his bank to wire the money to the BOA in Ashland, Oregon.

February 20, 2000 - El Fiki's follows up with an email to AHF inquiring as to why he has not received acknowledgment of his donation.

March 23, 2000 - El Fiki resends his email asking for a receipt for his donation.

Thereafter, El Fiki received a letter from his bank confirming the transfer.

El Fiki subsequently received an AHF receipt through Salat indicating the cash was received by the foundation.

El Fiki's last contact with AHF was the March 23, 2000 email seeking confirmation and acknowledgment that his donation was received.

(U) El Fiki described another charity he provided money to during the period 1997-2000. The organization employed approximately 250 people. El Fiki's accountant told him his contributions to this charity were being wasted on unnecessary employees and not properly spending the money on children as promised. The information provided by his accountant caused him to more closely scrutinize to whom he provided financial support. This information also showed him how difficult it is to monitor funds donated to any organization. El Fiki ultimately stopped giving to his particular charity because it was abusing his trust and donations.

(U) El Fiki advised he donated \$150,000.00 in three separate installments of \$50,000.00 each to the Islamic Center of Southern California (ICSC), located at 434 South Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, California. These funds were also sent to an account maintained at the Bank of America. These donations occurred in February and April, 1995. This money went towards establishing a new school at the facility. The school was known as "The Straight Path." El Fiki's connection to the ICSC was through his association with Dr. Hassan Hatout. El Fiki knew Hatout from their time together in Kuwait. Hatout is a gynecologist practicing in Los Angeles. El Fiki last donated money to the ICSC in 1996. El Fiki

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remains in contact with Hatout and described meeting him once a year in Kuwait.

(U) El Fiki donated money to an Islamic Center in Cairo that is run by Dr. Abdul Gafar(phonetic). El Fiki recalled an Egyptian student named Mohammad Turki that solicited him for donations for a mosque in the United States. Turki called in approximately mid-2001 after the events of 9/11/01. Turki's father worked with El Fiki in Kuwait. El Fiki had doubts about what the money would be used for and declined to donate. He has never heard from Turki since that time.

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